constructed and about 2.4 lakh houses are under construction. Is there any proposal under the Government because the same houses are intended for the weaker sections to extend loans at 4 per cent to the State Government so that they can implement the scheme and hand over the same to the weaker sections.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Sir, schemes are there under the Ministry of Rural Development. As far as the banks are concerned, obviously they do not provide free houses.

SHRI DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI: Sir, since the very inception of special consideration for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes I have been experiencing that money allotted for the development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from the Centre is inadequate and that money is subsidised, i.e., if Rs. 50,000 or Rs. 45,000 is given from the Centre, half the money is to be provided by the State Government, but that is not done. Rather sometimes it is seen that the money allotted by the Centre is being utilised for other projects or converted into other programmes. Now, every time we hear the question of development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and weaker sections but in practical terms it is not done at all. Now, take for instance, the question of Rs. 5,000 for housing, which our hon. Minister has mentioned. It is a negative thing. It is a completely negative thing. It is better not to give it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your question?

SHRI DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI: Sir, my question is that if you think of the development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, why should you not be liberal and make it at least Rs. 10,000? If it is Rs. 10,000 then only it can be done. But Rs. 5,000 is nothing nowadays. So, it is misleading the House and unjust and unfair to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you increase it to Rs. 10,000?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: At the moment, there is no such proposal.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next Question No. 102.

Irregularities Committed by some Officers of the Delhi Branch of State Bank of Indore in Advancing Loans

*102. SHRI RAM NARESH YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the particulars of the officers of the Delhi Branch of the State Bank of Indore found guilty in advancing loan of Rs. 1 crore to some exporters;

(b) what are the details of the action taken against them till now; and

(c) whether the amount has been recovered and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. (*See* below)

Statement

The State Bank of Indore has reported that procedural irregularities had been noticed in the conduct of a particular account and the opening of letters of credit facilities to two importers against that account in their Chandni Chowk Delhi Branch. Five officers of the Branch were identified for the lapse. Of these, one officer was removed from service because of his involvement in ano-

ther case. Explanations were obtained from the remaining four officers and after consideration by the bank, they were warned.

The Bank has also reported that while a sum of Rs. 18.80 lakhs has been recovered in 1988, Rs. 68.02 lakhs are still outstanding due to non-retiring of the bills by the parties under Import Letter of Credit. However, the Bank has already filed Civil Suits against the defaulters for recovering the Bank's dues.

श्री राम नरेश यादव: मान्यवर, पिछले दो वर्षों से स्टेट बैंक आफ इंदौर और उनकी ब्रांच जो दिल्ली में है उसमें होने वाली अनियमितताओं, घोटालों और घपलों के संबंध में कई बार प्रश्न उठाये गये और माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी की तरफ से बराबर जो असलियत हैं, जो वास्तविकता है उसको छिपाने का प्रयास किया जाता रहा है । इस सिलसिले में एक करोड़ रुपये का घपला हुआ । मैं जानना चाहता हूं सरकार से कि जो छोटा कर्मचारी इन अनियमितताओं की सूचना दे, जो सारे मामले को सरकार की जानकारी में लाने का काम करे क्या सरकार की यह नीति है कि इस सूचना के आधार पर उसे ही नौकरी से बर्खास्त कर दिया जाये और क्या सरकार की यह भी नीति है कि जो बड़े-बड़े अधिकारी इसमें दोषी हैं उनको संरक्षण देकर उनके खिलाफ कार्रवाई न की जाए ? मैं यह मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं ।

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Member that departmental inquiries were conducted. We have no reason to disbelieve on the fairness of those inquiries but in view of the questions raised last time in this House regarding this and some particular incidents of this Bank and in view of this question we have instructed the CBI now, quite independently from the departmental inquiry, to have a look into this matter. This was done to maintain the credibility of the system out of respect for Parliament that some independent agency should look into this and we shall inform the House about the results of the CBI inquiry in this case and the associated cases to which the hon. Member has made a reference.

श्री राम नरेश यादव: मान्यवर, आप ने कहा कि चार अधिकारी इसमें दोषी पाये गये । उसमें से तीन के खिलाफ तो आपने कहा कि उनको वार्निंग देकर छोड़ दिया गया और एक अधिकारी जो बचा उसके खिलाफ कोई कार्रवाइ नहीं की गयी । मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि उस एक करोड़ की वसूली के लिए सरकार ने अभी तक क्या कार्रवाई की और वह वसूली अभी तक क्यों नहीं की गई ? एक करोड़ रुपये का मामला ऐसा है कि पूरे देश में समाचार पत्रों में घोटाले की कहानी छप चुकी है । इसके बावजूद भी वसूली की कार्रवाई न करने का कारण मैं यह समझता हूं कि हैड आफिस इंदौर का जो जनरल मैनेजर है उनका भाई यहां दिल्ली शाखा में जनरल मैनेजर है। इसलिए जानबूझ कर इसे छिपाने की कोशिश की गयी । मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि वसूली की कार्रवाई न करने का क्या कारण है और उनको क्यों बचाने की कोशिश की गयी ?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Sir, I have already stated that we have asked the CBI to look into this matter, not only in this case but other associated cases also we have asked them to look into. As far as the inquiry is concerned, the findings are here in my written answer and we have no reason to disbelieve the fairness of this inquiry. I repeat again that to maintain the credibility of the system and out of respect for Parliament we have asked the CBI to look into it and therefore let us await the results of the investigation by CBI which I will place before the House.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA: There are increasing complaints of irregularities and corruption against bank officers, and as the answer says civil suits have to be filed to recover the dues, I would like to know from the Minister whether in view of these allegations in other cases that are being reported almost everyday, the Government is going to review the whole system and tighten the rules so that such cases of irregularities do not take place.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: In principle, we do not believe that changing one system by another, or reviewing the system as a whole, is going to solve the problem. We believe if we implement the existing system and monitor it, better results will be achieved. But if some changes are to be made, definitely we will look into it. I would like to add that as far as this particular case is concerned, the amount was not forthcoming in spite of several demands. The bank has filed civil suits against Expo International and Jasmine on 20th October, 1987 and 24th January, 1988 respectively.. The suits are *sub-judice*. M. S. Jasmine has paid subsequent to the filing of the suit a sum of Rs. 18.80 lakhs and the present outstandings are Rs. 68.02 lakhs.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA: I asked whether you will tighten the rules.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: We will look into the whole matter; we are monitoring the system.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Sir, the frauds in the banks, including this fraud in the State Bank of Indore, have been very adversely commented upon by the Estimates Committee and by a Committee of Parliament appointed under Mr. Era Sezhian and both these Committees have gone into the frauds of this type. What I could understand from the Minister's reply is that this case is being handled by the CBI. CBI might be an agency, but actually when these two very weighty Committees of Parliament have gone into the aspect, has the Government taken cognizance of the proceedings of these Committees and what steps the Government proposes to take to see that these frauds do not take place? I am not exactly aware, but the total amount involved in frauds in various banks is of staggering nature and I want to know what steps the Government proposes to take in view of the findings of these various Committees.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: In view of the remarks made by the hon. Member, I will take, very soon, a meeting of the Chief Vigilance Officers of all the nationalised banks to discuss this matter and, if necessary, to tighten the system and have a better monitoring of the entire system.

श्री शंकर सिंह वाघेला : चेयरमन साहब, यह जो करोड़ों रुपये का घपला है, यह न सिर्फ बोफर्स और होउटजर गन का ही मामला नहीं है, बैंकों में भी यह घपला हो रहा है... (व्यवधान)

श्री सभापति : आप अपना प्रश्न कीजिए... (व्यवधान)। वह तो समझदार आदमी है।

SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Whether it is a fact that from 1983 to 1985, in the State Bank of Indore, more than Rs. 33 crore, यह 33 करोड़ रुपयों का स्टेट बैंक आंफ इंदौर के अफसरों ने पूरे देश में गोलमाल किया है। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि बैंकों का राष्ट्रीयकरण करने के बाद भी बैंकों के आफिसर्स क्या बिजनेस में भागीदार होते हैं ? लौन देने के बाद लौन की वसूली की एकापन्टेबिलिटी क्या आफिसरों की नहीं होती है? इस बारे में आप की क्या पालिसी है? मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि जिस अफसर ने 10 लाख रुपयों का लौन दिया है उसकी वसूली की भी जिम्मेदारी होनी चाहिए चाहे वह किसी भी ब्रांच में गया हो। जिस अफसर ने 33 करोड़ का घपला

पूरे देश में किया है उस अफसर के खिलाफ आप ने क्या एक्शन लिया है?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: As far as this particular bank is concerned, I would not like to prejudice the course of investigation by CBI by making any comments. As far as frauds generally are concerned, I have already said that I will take a meeting of Chief Vigilance Officers of all nationalised banks to see that provisions are implemented to the hilt.

SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Number of frauds are taking place in nationalised banks throughout the country. Is the Government thinking of establishing a separate investigating agency for all nationalised banks?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: We do not find it necessary.

डा० बापू कालदाते: सभापति जी, मराठी में एक कहावत है :—

"चोराला सोडुन सन्यास्थाला फांसी"

मैं शंकरराव जी के लिये कह रहा हूं। इसमें सवाल यह है कि इंदौर बैंक में जिस प्रधान लिपिक मि० सी० एल० वर्मा, (C.L. verma) ने शिकायत की, उनकी सर्विस बीस साल हो गई थी। उन्होंने शिकायत की और उसका नतीजा यह हुआ कि उनको नौकरी से हटा दिया गया और जिनके खिलाफ शिकायत थी उनका केवल वार्निंग देकर छोड़ दिया गया। यह ऐसा है कि सन्यासी को फांसी दे दी और चोर को माफ कर दिया। इस तरह का रवैया सरकार ने अख्तयार किया है। हम यह चाहते हैं कि उन लोगों के ऊपर तो आप कार्यवाही करिये ही लेकिन जिस निर्दोष आदमी को आपने निकाल दिया है, जिसके ऊपर अन्याय हुआ है, उसके बारे में आप क्या कर रहे हैं?

श्री एस० बी० चव्हाण: खबर देने वाला सन्यासी है, मैं डा० बापू कालदाते साहब जी राय से मुत्तफिक हूं। इसके बारे में जानकारी ली जायेगी। उसने सिर्फ खबर दी, इसलिये उसको हटाया गया है, अगर ऐसा है तो जरूर इसके ऊपर कार्यवाही करेंगे।

Decision of Jharkhand Coordination Committee to declare autonomy for Jharkhand

*103. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:
SHRI CHITTA BASU:†

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Jharkhand Coordination Committee which is presently spearheading the separate Statehood movement has decided to unilaterally declare autonomy for Jharkhand on January 1, next; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) According to available information, the Jharkhand Coordination Committee decided at its Conference held from 11th to 13th September, 1988 that if the Government of India did not create Jharkhand State by the end of 1988, a provisional Government of Jharkhand would be formed.

(b) Such demands arise on account of economic imbalances. The Government is of the view that such imbalances in any particular State or region should be tackled through the mechanism of planning for development and that creation of a separate State may not be the answer to the problem.

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†The Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Chitta Basu.